

5 Overlooked Aspects of the College Search

The journey to college is an exciting and transformative time in a student's life. While much attention is often given to academic programs, campus aesthetics, and extracurricular activities, there are several critical aspects that families tend to overlook in the college decision-making process. These often unnoticed elements can significantly impact a student's well-being and overall college experience.



#1

Adaptive Services

For students with disabilities, seeking adaptive services and accommodations is vital. Many families overlook the importance of investigating the college's commitment to providing equal access to education for all students. Look for institutions that offer services such as accessible classrooms, assistive technologies, note-taking assistance, and extended exam time.

#2

Mental Health Services

The college experience comes with its share of challenges, and mental health support is critical. Families and students should prioritize colleges that offer comprehensive mental health services, including counseling centers and access to trained professionals. The availability of resources for stress management, therapy, and crisis intervention can significantly impact a student's well-being.

#3

On-Campus and Off-Campus Safety

While college campuses often feel like safe havens, it's essential to consider both on-campus and off-campus safety. Families should also explore the transportation options available to students, especially during late hours. Understanding the safety measures in place, such as well-lit pathways and shuttle services, can contribute to a sense of security.

#4

Evacuation Plans

Safety should always be a top priority. Families and students should inquire about the college's emergency preparedness plans, including evacuation procedures in case of natural disasters, fires, or other emergencies. Familiarizing oneself with evacuation routes and emergency contact information can be crucial in times of crisis.

#5

Crisis Management & Communications

Families should inquire about the college's communication protocols during crises, such as how they notify students and families, and how they handle various emergency situations. Having clear information and established communication channels can help families stay informed and make well-informed decisions during challenging times.

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